Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 02014 141030Z ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /025 W ------141454Z 068069 /53

R 140907Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1588

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DEPARTMENT PASS OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN MO

SUBJECT: MOTOROLA SEMI-CONDUCTOR PLANT

REF STATE 79239

1. TO BRING MATTERS REPORTED REFTEL UP TO DATE, MOTOROLA REPS BEFORE LEAVING RABAT IN MED-MARCH TOLD EMBASSY THAT ALL PROBLEMS--INCLUDING NIGHT SHIFT--HAD BEEN SOLVED AND DECISION IN PRINCIPLE TO INVEST HERE HAD BEEN CONFIRMED. WE HAVE TALKED TO DANIEL BOCK, MOTOROLA'S SWISS ATTORNEY, TO CLARIFY THIS APPARENT INCONSISTENCY WITH WHAT LARRY FAIR TOLD OPIC OFFICIALS AS REPORTED PARA 3 REFTEL.

2. BOCK SAYS THAT DURING MARCH VISIT MOROCCAN LABOR OFFICIALS ASSURED MOTOROLA REPS FEMALE LABOR COULD BE USED ON NIGHT SHIFT AND THAT MINLAB WOULD CONFIRM BY LETTER WITHIN TWO OR THREE DAYS. AFTER TWO WEEKS WAIT, MOTOROLA LEARNED GOM EMBARRASSED TO DISCOVER IT HAD SIGNED (BUT WE UNDERSTAND NOT YET RATIFIED) ILO CONVENTION PROHIBITING FEMALE NIGHT SHIFT LABOR. MINISTER THUS UNABLE SIGN LETTER, BUT COULD ASSURE MOTOROLA INFORMALLY THAT SEVERAL COMPANIES NOW FOLLOWING PRACTICE AND GOM WOULD NOT INTERFERE. RESPONSE TO GOM WAS THAT THIS NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOOD ENOGHT. TALKS THEN REOPENED WITH TUNISIA.

3. MOTOROLA ATTORNEY SAID, HOWEVER, THAT MOROCCO STILL VERY MUCH IN RUNNING AND HE INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE FORMAL PROPOSAL, INCLUDING NIGHT SHIFT PROVISION, FOR SENIOR MOTOROLA OFFICIALS TO REVIEW IN GENEVA FOLLOWING APRIL 25-MAY 5 VISIT TO TUNIS. STRATEGY IS PRESUMABLY TO USE

FORMAL TUNIS WAIVER TO EXTRACT SIMILAR WAIVER HERE.

4. BOCK SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, ONLY LACK OF
WAIVER STOOD IN WAY OF DECISION IN FAVOR OF MOROCCO. WE
ARE PUZZLED, BECAUSE IF TUNISIA CAN LEGALLY WAIVE ILO CONVENTION
PROVISION, MOROCCO CAN PRESUMABLY DO SO AS WELL. WOULD
APPRECIATE WASHINGTON REACTION TO THIS LEGAL POSSIBILITY
AND VIEW AS TO WHO MIGHT BRING THIS POSSIBILITY TO
ATTENTION OF GOM. PERHAPS APPROACH TO TUNISIA IS
MOTOROLA'S WAY OF DOING THIS INDIRECTLY AND WITH MAXIMUM
LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS.
ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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